(WASHINGTON)--- Congressman Allen West (R-FL) has been named today a member of the National Defense Authorization Act Conference. The NDAA Conference is a select group of bipartisan members from both the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate that will begin hammering out the final provisions of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2012. NDAA legislation provides the policy for the Department of Defense and America's Armed Services and ensures troops have the resources they need to defend America.

"It is an honor to be a member of the conference setting policies for the Department of Defense to be successful in keeping our country safe," West said. "As a 22-year United States Army Veteran, I look forward to sharing my insight on what I believe is most important in this bill- a bill that will ultimately determine the future of our Armed Services."

House Armed Services Committee Chairman Howard "Buck" McKeon said he specifically chose Congressman West because Lieutenant Colonel West's insights have been "extremely valuable" to the committee this past year.

"Congressman West has certainly earned his place on this conference," McKeon said. "I am honored to have Allen at my side as we close out the 50th NDAA. Over the next few days, the House and Senate will have to work through several important issues. I know Congressman West will be an asset as we put together the best possible legislation for our men and women in uniform."

Congressman West sponsored a successful bipartisan piece of legislation that passed the House earlier this year. H.R. 1246 proposed cutting 10 percent off the Defense printing budget, generating nearly \$180 million in savings through Fiscal Year 2016 - information on legislation here.

The NDAA also includes additional pieces of legislation Congressman West proposed, including:

• House Resolution to reduce funding for Defense studies, analysis and evaluations by 10%.

Would generate a savings of \$24 million in Fiscal Year 2012, returning up to \$120 million to the treasury through Fiscal Year 2016.

• House Resolution to restrict payout of annual nationwide adjustment and locality pay for below satisfactory workers. Would generate approximately \$21 million in savings while increasing productivity in the workforce. As employees become more satisfactory in future years, the savings would be approximately \$80 million through Fiscal Year 2016.

"It is important the final version of the National Defense Authorization Act include the cuts to wasteful defense spending I proposed," West said. "It is also just as important that the NDAA protect essential Defense programs. I am confident my 22 years in the United States Army will provide insight to the conference."

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